

**From:** A. Corkins  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/25/02 12:51pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Judge Kollar-Kotaly:

I'm a Network Engineer working for a large networking equipment provider.

I'm writing to express my disagreement with the Proposed Final Judgement for the Microsoft AnitTrust Lawsuit.

After all the effort that has been expended and the findings of numerous Courts that Microsoft in fact established an illegal monopoly. This PFJ does not go far enough to remedy the past wrongs, nor create sufficient provisions to curtail its behavior in the future.

I am very much in favor of free markets and competition, and allowing those that win by establishing new technologies that clearly benefit society from profiting from their efforts. I work for a large networking company that is clearly the leader in its industry, and I also enjoy the fruits of our collective efforts and am proud of how we have benefitted society as a whole.

Microsoft though has sought to maximize its profits and market dominance, through methods which I believe compromise the delicate ethical balance between the benefits of competing in free markets and benefitting society.

Their predatory practices of using their market strength to wrestle Intellectual Property from competitors and partners, they have violated all kinds of fairness standards in my mind. I don't mind seeing weak companies and products being beat, that is certainly a normal and healthy part of business. But when those that might develop competing products are bribed not to do so, are we really better for that? The PFJ supposedly addresses this, disallowing Microsoft from paying people not to develop code, but then allows it if it is "reasonably necessary". But there is no provision for who decides this standard.

The "bolting" of IE, where Microsoft feigned ignorance in allowing people to use other HTTP browsers in my opinion was again abuse of their OS monopoly. IE is an inferior product to some of the other browsers that are no longer being advanced, because Microsoft (who is supposed to be serving its customers well with its OS product), creates barriers to ease of use for other browsers.

Their pre-installation of "middleware" products that can't be removed is yet another area I believe the PFJ doesn't sufficiently address.

Please do not allow this PFJ to go forward in its current form, this would be a dis-service to the General Public.

Best Regards,  
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